

NOTES ON EAST AFRICAN COWRIES

By

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This up to date list has gradually been compiled by various East African collectors. My particular thanks are due to Ken Fuller and Misha Fainzilber for data concerning the more recent additions, numbers 7, 31 and 42, which have been found in Dar-es-Salaam and Zanzibar. I have just added No. 43 which has been found at Shelly Beach and at Shimoni. Quite a few E. marginalis with their distinct violet base and B. oweni with deep cut teeth have been found at Zanzibar and also the little P. microdon. The once rare Cribraria chinensis was quite common in 1965 along the Diani Beaches.

The Cowry collection at the National Museum has been sorted out and a representative collection is on view but is not yet complete, Nos. 23, 29, 31, 41 and 43 being still required to complete the series.

I am preparing a collection of colour slides of shells - and cowries in particular, and hope to show these to interested people during 1966. There is considerable interest in East African varieties of such cowries as A. histrio, A. arabica, P. ziczac, M. moneta and L. mappa as we seem to have more than the usual known varieties here.

Information on lesser known reefs and pools between Jadini and Shimoni is required, particularly details of specimens found, habitat and localities. A list of shells from the Lamu area and of beaches north of Malindi would also be welcome. Mrs. L. Cameron is collecting information on the colour and appearance of the bodies of Cowries, which should, when available, assist in the identification of specimens caught alive.

List of Cowry Shells (CYPRAEIDAE) Recorded from the E. African Coast

Genus	Species	Subspecies or variety	Author	Common Name
<u>Subfamily ADUSTINAE</u>				
1. Adusta	onyx	adusta	Lamarck, 1959	onyx
2. Cribraria	cribraria		Perry, 1811	spotted cowry
3. Palmadusta	clandestina	passerina	Melville, 1858	false 3 banded
4. "	ziczac	diliculum	Reeve, 1845	ziczac
5. "	ziczac	virginalis	Schilder, 1939	ziczac
6. "	ziczac	misella	Perry, 1811	pale ziczac
7. "	contaminata	distans	Schilder, 1939	
<u>Subfamily Cypraeinae</u>				
8. Lyncina	lynx	lynx	Linnaeus, 1758	lynx
9. Cypraea	tigris		Linnaeus, 1758	tiger
10. Leporicypraea	mappa	alga	Perry, 1811	map
11. "	mappa	mappa	Linnaeus, 1758	map
12. Ponda	carneola	sowerbyi	Anton, 1839	flesh
13. Mystaponda	vitellus	dama	Perry, 1811	fallow deer
<u>Subfamily ERRONEINAE</u>				
14. Bistolida	stolida	diaudes	Melville, 1888	square spot
15. Blasicrura	kieneri	kieneri	Hidalgo,	false swallow
16. "	oweni		Sowerby.	owen
17. Ovatipsa	caurica	caurica	Linnaeus, 1758	
18. "	chinensis	violacea	Rous, 1905	violet
19. Talostolida	teres	subfasciata	Link, 1807	long

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<u>Subfamily EROSARIINAE</u>				
20. Erosaria	erosa	erosa	Linnaeus, 1758	
21. "	lamarcki	lamarcki	Gray, 1825	
22. "	marginalis	pseudocellata	Schilder, 1939	marginated
23. "	nebrites	mozambicana	Schilder, 1939	
24. "	turdus	turdus	Lamarck, 1810	thrush
25. Monetaria	moneta	moneta	Linnaeus, 1758	money
26. "	moneta	icterina	Lamarck, 1810	money
27. Ornatetaria	annulus	camelorum	Iredale, 1939	gold-ring
28. Ravitrona	caputserpentis	caputserpentis	Linnaeus, 1758	serpents head
29. "	gangranosa	reentsii	Dunkir, 1852	
30. "	helvola	argella	Melvill, 1888	star
31. "	poraria		Linnaeus, 1758	porous
<u>Subfamily MAURITIINAE</u>				
32. Arabica	arabica	immanis	Schilder, 1939	arabian
33. "	depressa	dispersa	Schilder, 1939	
34. "	histrio		Gmelin, 1791	harlequin
35. "	scurra	scurra	Gmelin, 1791	jester
36. Mauritia	mauritiana	mauritiana	Linnaeus, 1758	hump back
<u>Subfamily NARIINAE</u>				
37. Evenaria	asellus	asellus	Linnaeus, 1758	three banded
38. "	punctata	punctata	Linnaeus, 1758	punctate
39. Milicerona	felina	felina	Gmelin, 1791	cat
40. Paulonaria	fimbriata	durbanensis	Schilder, 1939	
41. "	gracilis	notata	Gill, 1859	
42. "	microdon	chrysalis	Kiener, 1843	small toothed
43. Evenaria	hirundo	hirundo	Linnaeus, 1758	swallow
<u>Subfamily PUSTULARIINAE</u>				
44. Pustularia	cicercula	lienardi	Josseume, 1843	
45. "	globulus	brevirostris	Schilder, 1939	
<u>Subfamily STAPHYLAEINAE</u>				
46. Nuclearia	nucleus	madagascarensis	Gmelin, 1791	
47. Staphylaea	limacina	interstictina	Wood, 1828	
48. "	staphylaea	laevigata	Dautzenburg, 1932	
<u>Subfamily TALPARIINAE</u>				
49. Arestorides	argus	contrastriata	Perry, 1811	pheasant
50. Basilitronea	isabella	isabella	Linnaeus, 1758	isabella
51. Chelycypraea	testudinaria	ingens	Schilder, 1939	tortoise
52. Talparia	talpa	imperialis	Schilder, 1939	mole

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